• Production increased by 40 tons, which is an 8% rise from the 2012 baseline.
• Progress was made towards the scaling up of the sector in the next years with 8.4 tons of abalone seeded for ranching, 25 000 fingerlings stocked in a sea bass cage farm and 200 abalone broodstock in an abalone hatchery.

Catalyst projects implemented to date in South Africa:
Progress
• Nine projects are on schedule or ahead of schedule (jobs, production, GDP and transformation). *Six expansion projects and three new projects.
• These projects include: Doringbaai, Hamburg Oyster and Kob, HIK, Abagold, Blue Oceans Mussels, Saldanha Bay Oyster, Molapong, Richard’s Bay and Diamond Coast Abalone.

Leases
• DPW task team – first six leases approved
• TNPA – advertised and approved three leases.

Highlights
• Doring Bay
• Abagold
• Hamburg
• Richard’s Bay
• Saldanha Bay.

Become involved
Contact the DAFF:
» Telephone: 012 319 6000
» Website: www.daff.gov.za

Contact the DEA:
» Telephone: 086 111 2468
» Email: callcentre@environment.gov.za
» Website: www.environment.gov.za

We all have a responsibility to help grow South Africa and make our country a better place for all. You have a contribution to make – every effort counts.

Together we move South Africa forward
Background
- South Africa is surrounded by the ocean on three sides. With the inclusion of Prince Edward and Marion Islands, its coastline is some 3 900 kilometres long.
- In 2010, the ocean contributed approximately R54 billion to South Africa’s gross domestic product (GDP) and accounted for approximately 316 000 jobs.
- South Africa has the opportunity to boost this contribution considerably, leveraging its rich marine resources in a sustainable manner to boost both economic and social development.
- The number of jobs linked to the ocean economy could rise to 0.8–1.0 million, which is more than double the 2010 level.
- The future potential of the ocean economy is highly concentrated within four new growth areas that could grow the South African economy and create many jobs.
- These sectors are:
  » Marine transport and manufacturing activities (coastal shipping, trans-shipment, boat building, repair and refurbishment, etc.)
  » Offshore oil and gas exploration
  » Aquaculture
  » Marine protection services and ocean governance.

Operation Phakisa Ocean’s Economy: Aquaculture
- The Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), together with other key departments such as Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), Transport, Energy, Mineral Resources and Public Enterprises, initiated the Oceans Economy Labs as part of Operation Phakisa.
- The purpose of the labs was to unlock the economic potential of the ocean in the aforementioned four new growth areas by generating detailed, practical action plans to drive the growth required to attain the aspirations defined for each priority sector.
- With Operation Phakisa’s operation on “big, fast results”, the labs focused on initiatives that can deliver significant impact within the next five years, with selected “quick win” initiatives designed to deliver results within 12 to 18 months. The initiatives developed by the labs will also lay the groundwork for sustained longer-term growth in the four priority sectors and across the entire oceans economy.
- The first focus area of Operation Phakisa is an ambitious programme to unlock the economic potential of South Africa’s oceans.
- The Oceans Economy Labs took place in Durban in July and August 2014.

More than 200 full and part-time participants came together to develop detailed implementation plans to unlock the economic potential of three economic sectors – marine transport and manufacturing, oil and gas exploration and aquaculture – and to secure integrated protection and governance of South Africa’s oceans.

Aquaculture lab outputs
- The DAFF is the lead department for the Oceans Economy Aquaculture Lab.
- The lab concluded that South Africa’s aquaculture sector has a high growth potential owing to an increasing demand for fish in the face of declining fish stocks in the ocean, and South Africa’s abundance of marine and freshwater resources.
- Currently, the sector is at a very small-scale and production is focused on a few high value species such as abalone, oysters, mussels, finfish and trout, driven mainly by the high cost of production.
- Challenges include regulatory barriers, difficulty in accessing funding, poor access to markets, limited pool of skills, poor access to quality inputs, fragmented research and development, limited infrastructure in rural areas and inclusivity in the sector.
- The goal is to grow aquaculture in South Africa to play a major role in the supply of fish products, and an enhanced role in job creation and contribution to national income. The targets over the next five years seek to grow sector revenue from R0.67 billion to R3 billion; production by 20 000 tons; jobs from 2 227 to 15 000 and ensure increased participation to support transformation in the sector.

Targets achieved to date
- Nine out of the 24 prioritised fish farms were supported through the Aquaculture Development and Enhancement Programme, Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme and the Working for Fisheries Programme resulting in their scale-up plans being fully in progress.
- Nine leases from the Department of Public Works (DPW) were approved.
- Altogether 85 hectares of total water lease space were approved from Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA).
- The total committed investment by industry and government amounted to R410 306 233.
- The total new jobs either realised or committed are 521, implying a 23% increase from the 2012 baseline.